AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

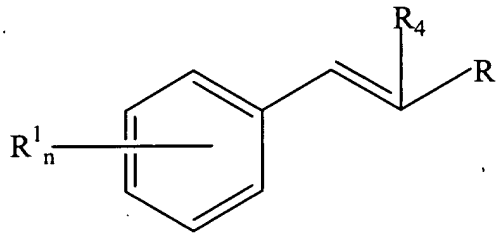
The listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents -CHO, -CH_2OH, -COOH, or -$COOR_5$; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R^1 represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R^1 substituents of said compound is no more than 15; and R_4 represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R_5 ~~represent~~represents an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound.

6. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein said, aromatic compound is one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is microencapsulated in a polymer.

8. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

9 to 14. (Previously cancelled)

15. (Previously amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said composition comprises a surfactant.

16 to 20. (Previously cancelled)

22. (Previously added) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of soil-borne pathogens.

23. (Previously added) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of thrips, aphids, spider mites, arachnids, nematodes, and leafhoppers.

24. (Previously added) The method according to claim 7, wherein said administering to said plant consists of application by foliar spray.

25. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 15 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

26. (Previously amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said one or more aldehyde.

27. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is microencapsulated in a polymer.

28. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

29. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of aphids, thrips, spider mites, arachnids, nematodes, and leafhoppers.

30. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said green plant is selected from the group consisting of a rose, a grape, a tomato, and a bell pepper.

31. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a surfactant.

32. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 31 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

33. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a salt of a polyprotic acid.

34. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 33, wherein said salt of a polyprotic acid is sodium bicarbonate.

35. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

36. (Previously added) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.

37. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

38. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.

39. (Previously added) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi. selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.

40. (New) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound, wherein said compound is an aromatic aldehyde selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound.